

What is claimed is:

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Claim 1 (cancelled)

Claim 2 (cancelled)

Claim 3 (amended) ~~A dental implant apparatus, as described in Claim 1, A dental implant apparatus with expandable sides for locking into a predrilled hole in bone comprising having an upper conformal socket, a hollow expansion tube with a wall having alternating ribs and open spaces, and a lower retaining nut;~~

said hollow expansion tube compressible along a major axis by tightening a retaining compression screw through said conformal socket, said expansion tube and said retaining nut; and said ribs expanding outward upon the tightening of said retaining compression screw; comprising said outwardly expanding ribs with a thinned portion on said ribs bowing outward to a greater distance than the thicker portion of said ribs to prevent rotation of said dental implant apparatus during installation and use, said thinned portions on said ribs alternating edges on alternate said ribs.

Claim 4 (cancelled)

21
Cinleman Ser. 10/034,538 Correction to 2nd Response Reply2 Spiral05.doc 02/05/04 9:16 AM
Page 2 of 7

Claim 5 (amended) A dental implant apparatus ~~as described in claim 1,~~ with expandable sides for locking into a predrilled hole in bone ~~comprising~~ having an upper conformal socket, a hollow expansion tube with a wall having alternate ribs and open spaces, and a lower retaining nut;

said hollow expansion tube compressible along a major axis by tightening a retaining compression screw through said conformal socket, said expansion tube and said retaining nut;

and said ribs expanding outward upon the tightening of said retaining compression screw-
comprising outwardly expanding ribs with a notched edge on said ribs bowing outward to a greater distance than the un-notched edge of said ribs to prevent rotation of said dental implant apparatus during installation and use, said notched edges on said ribs alternating edges of alternate said ribs.

Claim 6 (amended) A dental implant apparatus, ~~as described in Claim 1, comprising with~~
expandable sides for locking into a predrilled hole in bone having an upper conformal socket, a hollow expansion tube with a wall having alternate ribs and open spaces, and a lower retaining nut;

said hollow expansion tube compressible along a major axis by tightening a retaining compression screw through said conformal socket, said expansion tube and said retaining nut;

and said ribs expanding outward upon the tightening of said retaining compression screw- comprising outwardly expanding ribs with narrowed portions on said ribs bowing to a smaller radius than the un-narrowed portions of said ribs to prevent rotation of said dental implant apparatus during installation and use.

Claim 7 (amended) A dental implant apparatus, ~~as described in Claim 1, comprising with~~
expandable sides for locking into a predrilled hole in bone having an upper conformal
socket, a hollow expansion tube with a wall having alternate ribs and open spaces, and a
lower retaining nut;
said hollow expansion tube compressible along a major axis by tightening a retaining
compression screw through said conformal socket, said expansion tube and said retaining
nut;
and said ribs expanding outward upon the tightening of said retaining compression screw[-]
comprising outwardly expanding ribs with narrowed portions on said ribs bowing to a smaller
radius than the un-narrowed portions of said ribs to prevent rotation of said dental
implant apparatus during installation and use, said narrowed portions on said ribs
alternating edges of alternate said ribs.

Claim 8 (cancelled)

Claim 9 (amended) A dental implant apparatus, ~~as described in Claim 1, comprising with~~
expandable sides for locking into a predrilled hole in bone having an upper conformal
socket, a hollow expansion tube with a wall having alternate ribs and open spaces, and a
lower retaining nut;
said hollow expansion tube compressible along a major axis by tightening a retaining
compression screw through said conformal socket, said expansion tube and said retaining
nut;

and said ribs expanding outward upon the tightening of said retaining compression screw,

comprising outwardly expanding ribs, said ribs having edges that spiral about the central axis of said hollow expansion tube,

Claim 10 (amended) A dental implant apparatus, ~~as described in Claim 1,~~ comprising with expandable sides for locking into a predrilled hole in bone having an upper conformal socket, a hollow expansion tube with a wall having alternate ribs and open spaces, and a lower retaining nut;

said hollow expansion tube compressible along a major axis by tightening a retaining compression screw through said conformal socket, said expansion tube and said retaining nut;

and said ribs expanding outward upon the tightening of said retaining compression screw-
(^{said} comprising a hollow expansion tube having a truncated conical shape to better mimic the normal root shape of a tooth.

Claim 11 (amended) A dental implant apparatus, ~~as described in Claim 1,~~ comprising with expandable sides for locking into a predrilled hole in bone having an upper conformal socket, a hollow expansion tube with a wall having alternate ribs and open spaces, and a lower retaining nut;

said hollow expansion tube compressible along a major axis by tightening a retaining compression screw through said conformal socket, said expansion tube and said retaining nut;

and said ribs expanding outward upon the tightening of said retaining compression screw,

comprising outwardly expanding ribs with spaces through portions on said ribs forming spines extending to a greater diameter than the un-spaced portions of said ribs to prevent rotation of said dental implant apparatus during installation.

Claims 12 through 16 (cancelled)

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Respectfully submitted.



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